

VZCZCXRO7065

OO RUEHAG RUEHCHI RUEHDBU RUEHDT RUEHFL RUEHHM RUEHKW RUEHLA RUEHNH
RUEHNP RUEHROV RUEHSL RUEHSR
DE RUEHTH #1517 2721604
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O R 291604Z SEP 09
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0758
INFO ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE
EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 001517

SIPDIS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA PASS TO AMCONSUL ADANA
AMEMBASSY ASTANA PASS TO USOFFICE ALMATY
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PASS TO AMCONSUL LEIPZIG
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PASS TO AMEMBASSY PODGORICA
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PASS TO AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG
AMEMBASSY ATHENS PASS TO AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PASS TO AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG

E.O. 12958: DECL: 2019/09/29

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [GR](#) [BM](#)

SUBJECT: BURMA POLICY REVIEW DEMARCHE RESPONSE: GREEKS ON SAME SIDE,
SAME GOALS

REF: STATE 100518

CLASSIFIED BY: Alan Purcell, Deputy Political Counselor, State, POL;
REASON: 1.4(B), (D)

(C) Post delivered reftel points, previewing the conclusions of the U.S. Burma Policy Review, to Christos Chatzopoulos of the Greek MFA A10 Directorate for Asian Affairs, on September 29. Mr. Chatzopoulos assured us that Greek views towards Burma are in sync with our own. Mr. Chatzopoulos welcomed the new USG direct dialogue approach and stated that he hopes there is new momentum with this change in policy. Mr. Chatzopoulos stressed that Greece would be patient and respectful of EU guidelines; with 27 member states there needed to be a common decision. Mr. Chatzopoulos noted that the Burmese junta is brutal and has committed terrible crimes, but said the main issue, and what is most important to Greece, is to not take measures against the people, but the regime-thus, sanctions needed to be "smart" and targeted. With regard to the 2010 elections, Mr. Chatzopoulos agreed that the opposition and ethnic groups need to participate and is also doubtful that it will be a free and fair election. When asked if Burma would come up as a topic in the GAERC or other EU discussions, Mr. Chatzopoulos said he hoped to have more information soon.
Speckhard